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our entomological readers. Beginning with the transformations and anatomy of a single genus, the author in the second part has extended his studies to the anatomy of other Diptera, until the work promises, from what has already appeared, to be a worthy successor of those of Straus-Dürckheim, Lyonnet, Newport and Weismann.

Part first appeared in 1875, and received the grand prize of the physical sciences given by the French Academy of Sciences. It treats of the habits, tegumentary system and its development, and the muscular system and its development of *Volucella*.

Only the atlas of the second part has as yet been published; it comprises Plates XII–XXVI. The more notable figures are those illustrating the nervous system of various Diptera, the longitudinal sections of the adult *Volucella*, with three enlarged views, representing in one the heart, etc., in another the tracheæ and air-sacs, and in a third figure the digestive and nervous systems. The enlarged longitudinal section of the head and proboscis of *Volucella* is especially valuable and noteworthy. There are also numerous figures of microscopical sections. The plates have been mostly engraved on steel by Lebrun.

PUTNAM'S SOLPUGIDÆ OF NORTH AMERICA.—This posthumous essay on the family of Solpugidæ forms the concluding portion of the third part of the third volume of the Davenport Academy of Natural Sciences, issued in memory of Joseph Duncan Putnam, late president of the academy. The brochure contains the memorial meeting in honor of Mr. Putnam, biographical sketches by Dr. C. C. Parry and by Mr. W. J. McGee, with resolutions passed by the Iowa Academy of Sciences and other societies, all testifying to the scientific and moral worth of the young naturalist.

The notes and articles on the Solpugidæ were designed to form the materials for a monographic account of this interesting group of Arachnida, which occur in great rarity in North America, specimens being hard to obtain. The literary materials have been arranged by Mr. H. Osborn, and comprise general notes concerning the family and its genera; descriptions of new, and notes and comparisons of known species, a list of North American species, naming the collections in which they are preserved; extracts from the notes and correspondence relating to the group, and a bibliography. The work was done with great thoroughness by Mr. Putnam, the description being detailed and comparative, and the notes of habits and distribution very full. The drawings of these difficult subjects made by Mr. Putnam evince unusual artistic skill and patience. The new species described are *Datames striatus* Putn., *D. girardii* Putn., *D. constricta* Putn., *D. dilatata* Putn., *D. cinerea* Putn. No better work has been done in descriptive arachnology, and had Mr. Putnam lived he would have been an acknowledged authority as a zoölogist in whatever department he might have chosen to work.